

DIM

Crete's ample fields *diminish* to our eye;
Before the Boreal blasts the vessels fly. *Pope's Odyssey.*
DIMINISHINGLY. *adv.* [from *diminish*.] In a manner tending to vilify, or lessen.
I never heard him censure, or so much as speak *diminishingly* of any one that was absent. *Locke.*
DIMINUTION. *n. f.* [*diminutio*, Latin.]
1. The act of making less; opposed to augmentation.
The one is not capable of any *diminution* or augmentation at all by men; the other apt to admit both. *Hooker, b. iii.*
2. The state of growing less; opposed to increase.
The gravitating power of the sun is transmitted through the vast bodies of the planets without any *diminution*, so as to act upon all their parts, to their very centres, with the same force, and according to the same laws, as if the part upon which it acts were not surrounded with the body of the planet.
Finite and infinite seem to be looked upon as the modes of quantity, and to be attributed primarily to those things which are capable of increase or *diminution*. *Locke.*
3. Discredit; loss of dignity; degradation.
Heroic laurel'd Eugene yields the prime;
Nor thinks it *diminution* to be rank'd
In military honour next. *Phillips.*
They might raise the reputation of another, though they are a *diminution* to his. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 256.*
4. Deprivation of dignity; injury of reputation.
Make me wife by thy truth, for my own foul's salvation,
and I shall not regard the world's opinion or *diminution* of me. *King Charles.*
5. [In architecture.] The contraction of the diameter of a column, as it ascends.
DIMINUTIVE. *adj.* [*diminutivus*, Latin.] Small; little; narrow; contracted.
The poor wren,
The most *diminutive* of birds, will fight,
Her young ones in her nest, against the owl. *Shak. Macbeth.*
It is the interest of mankind, in order to the advance of knowledge, to be sensible they have yet attained it but in poor and *diminutive* measure. *Glavin. Scept. Preface.*
The light of man's understanding is but a short, *diminutive*, contracted light, and looks not beyond the present. *South.*
If the ladies should once take a liking to such a *diminutive* race of lovers, we should, in a little time, see mankind epitomized, and the whole species in miniature. *Addis. Guardian.*
They know how weak and awkward many of those little *diminutive* discourses are. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*
DIMINUTIVE. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]
1. A word formed to express littleness; as *lapillus*, in Latin, a little stone; *maisonette*, in French, a little house; *manniken*, in English, a little man.
He afterwards proving a dainty and effeminate youth, was commonly called, by the *diminutive* of his name, Peterkin or Perkin. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
Sim, while but Sim, in good repute did live;
Was then a knave, but in *diminutive*. *Cotton.*
2. A small thing; a sense not now in use.
Follow his chariot; monster-like, be shewn
For poor't *diminutives*, for doits! *Shakel. Ant. and Cleopatra.*
DIMINUTIVELY. *adv.* [from *diminutive*.] In a diminutive manner.
DIMINUTIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *diminutive*.] Smalness; littleness; pettyness; want of bulk; want of dignity.
DIMISH. *adj.* [from *dim*.] Somewhat dim; somewhat obscure.
'Tis true, but let it not be known,
My eyes are somewhat *dimish* grown;
For nature, always in the right,
To your decays adapts my sight. *Swift.*
DISSIMULATORY. *adj.* [*disimulatus*, Latin.] That by which a man is dissimulated to another jurisdiction.
A bishop of another diocese ought neither to ordain or admit a clerk, with the consent of his own proper bishop, and without the letters *dimissory*. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
DIMITY. *n. f.* A fine kind of stuff, or cloth of cotton.
I directed a trowze of fine *dimity*. *Wileman's Surgery.*
DIMLY. *adv.* [from *dim*.]
1. Not with a quick sight; not with a clear perception.
Unspeakeable! who fit't above these heav'ns,
To us invisible, or *dimly* seen,
In these thy lowest works. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. v.*
2. Not brightly; not luminously.
In the beginning of our pumping the air, the match appeared well lighted, though it had almost filled the receiver with its plentiful fumes; but by degrees it burnt more and more *dimly*. *Boyle's Spring of the Air.*
I saw th' angelick guards from earth ascend,
Grieved they must now no longer man attend;
The beams about their temples *dimly* shone;
One would have thought the crime had been their own. *Dry.*

DIN

DINNERS. *n. f.* [from *dim*.]
1. Dulness of sight.
2. Want of apprehension; stupidity.
Answerable to this *dinness* of their perception was the whole system and body of their religion. *Decay of Piety.*
DIMPLE. *n. f.* [*dint*, a hole; *dintle*, a little hole; by a careless pronunciation *dimple*. *Skinner.*] The same cavity or depression in the cheek or chin.
The *dimple* of the upper lip is the common measure of them all. *Grew's Cofm. Sac. b. i. c. 5.*
In her forehead's fair half-round,
Love sits in open triumph crown'd;
He in the *dimple* of her chin,
In private state, by friends is seen. *Prior.*
To **DIMPLE.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To sink in small cavities, or little inequalities.
The wild waves master'd him, and suck'd him in,
And smiling eddies *dimpled* on the main. *Dryd. Ann. Mirab.*
Eternal smiles his emptiness betrays,
As shallow streams run *dimpling* all away. *Pope, Epistle ii.*
DIMPLED. *adj.* [from *dimple*.] Set with dimples.
On each side her
Stood pretty *dimpled* boys like smiling Cupids. *Sh. Ant. and Cl.*
DIMPLY. *adj.* [from *dimple*.] Full of dimples; sinking in little inequalities.
As the smooth surface of the *dimpled* flood,
The silver-slipper'd virgin lightly trod. *Wharton's Isis.*
DIN. *n. f.* [*dyn*, a noise; *dynam*, to make a noise, Sax. *dyna*, to thunder, Ilandick.] A loud noise; a violent and continued sound.
And all the way he roared as he went,
That all the forest with astonishment
Thereof did tremble; and the beasts therein
Fled fast away from that so dreadful *din*. *Hubbard's Tale.*
O, 'twas a *din* to fright a monster's ear;
To make an earthquake sure, it was the roar
Of a whole herd of lions. *Shakespeare's Tempest.*
While the cock with lively *din*
Scatters the rear of darkness thin,
And to the flock or the barn-door
Stoutly frisks, his dame before. *Milton.*
Now night over heav'n
Inducing darkness, grateful truce impos'd,
And silence, on the odious *din* of war. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
How, while the troubled elements around,
Earth, water, air, the stunning *din* resound,
Through streams of smok and adverse fire he rides,
While ev'ry spot is level'd at his sides. *Smith.*
Some independent ideas, of no alliance to one another,
are, by education, custom, and the constant *din* of their party,
so coupled in their minds, that they always appear together.
TO DIN. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
1. To stun with noise; to harass with clamour.
Rather live
To bait thee for his bread, and *din* your ears
With hungry cries. *Orway's Venice Preserved.*
2. To impress with violent and continued noise.
What shall we do, if his majesty puts out a proclamation
commanding us to take Wood's half-pence? This hath been
often *din'd* in my ears. *Swift.*
TO DINE. *v. n.* [*diner*, French.] To eat the chief meal about the middle of the day.
Perhaps some merchant hath invited him,
And from the mart he's somewhere gone to dinner:
Good sister, let us *dine*, and never fret. *Shakespeare.*
Myself, he, and my sister,
To-day did *dine* together. *Shakel. Comedy of Errors.*
He would *dine* with him the next day. *Chaucer.*
Thus, of your heroes and brave boys,
With whom old Homer makes such noise,
The greatest actions I can find,
Are, that they did their work and *din'd*. *Prior.*
TO DINE. *v. a.* To give a dinner to; to feed.
Boil this restoring rosin in genious wines,
And set beside the door the tickly flock to *dine*. *Dryd. Virg.*
DINETICAL. *adj.* [*dinetical*.] Whirling round; vertiginous.
Some of late have concluded, from spots in the sun, which appear and disappear again, that, besides the revolution it maketh with its orbs, it hath also a *dinetic* motion, and rolls upon its own poles. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. vi. c. 6.*
A spherical figure is most commodious for *dinetic* motion, or revolution upon its own axis. *Ray on the Creation.*
TO DING. *pret. ding.* *v. a.* [*dringen*, Dutch.]
1. To dash with violence.
2. To impress with force.
TO DING. *v. n.* To bluster; to bounce; to huff. A low word.
He huffs and *dings* at such a rate, because we will not spend the little we have left to get him the title and estate of lord Strut. *Arbutnot's History of John Bull.*
DING-DONG. *n. f.* A word by which the sound of bells is imitated. *Let*

DIO

Let us all ring fancy's knell;
Ding, dong bell. *Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice.*
DINGLE. *n. f.* [from *den*, or *din*, a hollow, Saxon.] A hollow between hills; a dale.
I know each lane, and every alley green,
Dingle or bushy dell of this wild wood;
And every bosky bourn from side to side,
My daily walks and ancient neighbourhood. *Milton.*
DINING-ROOM. *n. f.* [*dine* and *room*.] The principal apartment of the house; the room where entertainments are made.
He went out from the *dining-room* before he had fallen into error by the intemperance of his meat, or the deluge of drink. *Taylor's Rule of Living holy.*
DINNER. *n. f.* [*diner*, French.] The chief meal; the meal eaten about the middle of the day.
Let me not stay a jot for *dinner*:
Go, get it ready. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
Before *dinner* and supper, as often as it is convenient, or can be had, let the publick prayers of the church, or some parts of them, be said publicly in the family. *Taylor.*
The jolly crew, unmindful of the pass,
The quarry share, their pteous *dinner* haste. *Dryd. An.*
DINNER-TIME. *n. f.* [*dinner* and *time*.] The time of dining.
At *dinner-time*,
I pray you, have in mind where we must meet. *Shakespeare.*
Then from the mint walks forth the man of rhyme,
Happy to catch me just at *dinner-time*. *Pope, Epistle ii.*
DINT. *n. f.* [*dynt*, Saxon.]
1. A blow; a stroke.
Much daunted with that *dint*, her sense was dar'd;
Yet kindling rage, herself she gather'd round. *Fairy Queen.*
Neither vainly hope
To be invulnerable in these bright arms,
Though temper'd heav'nly; for that mortal *dint*,
Save he who reigns above, none can resist. *Milt. Par. Lost.*
2. The mark made by a blow; the cavity remaining after a violent pressure.
Now you weep; and, I perceive, you feel
The *dint* of pity. *Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.*
He embrac'd her naked body o'er,
And, straining hard the statue, was afraid
His hands had made a *dint* and hurt the maid. *Dryden.*
3. Violence; force; power.
We are to wrest the whole Spanish monarchy out of the hands of the enemy; and, in order to it, to work our way into the heart of his country by *dint* of arms. *Addison.*
The dewlap'd bull now chafes along the plain,
While burning love ferments in ev'ry vein;
His well arm'd front against his rival aims,
And by the *dint* of war his mistress claims. *Gay.*
TO DINT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To mark with a cavity by a blow, or violent impression.
With greedy force each other doth assail,
And strike to fiercely, that they do impress
Deep *dinted* furrows in the batter'd mails:
The iron walls to ward their blows are weak and frail. *F. 2.*
Leave, leave, fair bride, your solitary bone,
No more shall you return to it alone;
Be nurish'd sadness; and your body's print,
Like to a grave, the yielding down doth *dint*. *Donne.*
Deep *dinted* wrinkles on her cheeks the draws;
Sunk are her eyes, and toothless are her jaws. *Dryd. An.*
DINUMERATION. *n. f.* [*dinumeratio*, Lat.] The act of numbering out singly.
DIOCESAN. *n. f.* [from *diocesis*.] A bishop as he stands related to his own clergy or flock.
I have heard it has been advised by a *diocesan* to his inferior clergy, that they should read some of the most celebrated sermons printed by others, for the instruction of their congregation. *Tatler, N^o. 57.*
DIODECES. *n. f.* [*dioces*, A Greek word compounded of *dia* and *dioces*.] The circuit of every bishop's jurisdiction; for this realm has two divisions, one into shires or counties, in respect of temporal policy; another into *dioceses*, in respect of jurisdiction ecclesiastical. *Cavell.*
None ought to be admitted by any bishop, but such as have dwelt and remained in his *diocesis* a convenient time. *Whitgift.*
He should regard the bishop of Rome as the islanders of Jersey and Guernsey do him of Constance in Normandy; that is, nothing at all, since by that French bishop's refusal to swear unto our king, those isles were annexed to the *diocesis* of Winchester. *Raleigh's Essays.*
St. Paul looks upon Titus as advanced to the dignity of a prince, ruler of the church, and intrusted with a large *diocesis*, containing many particular cities, under the immediate government of their respective elders, and those deriving authority from his ordination. *South.*
DIOPTRICAL. *n. f.* [*dioptricus*.] Affording a medium for the **DIOPTRICK.** } light; affixing the light in the view of distant objects.

DIP

Being excellently well furnished with *dioptrical* glasses, he had not been able to see the sun spotted. *Boyle.*
View the asperities of the moon through a *dioptrick* glass, and venture at the proportion of her hills by their shadows. *Mare's Antidote against Atheism.*
DIOPTRICKS. *n. f.* A part of optics, treating of the different refractions of the light passing through different mediums; as the air, water, glasses, &c. *Harris.*
DIORTHROSIS. *n. f.* [*diorthrosis*, of *diorthro*, to make straight.] A chirurgical operation, by which crooked or distorted members are made even, and restored to their primitive and regular shape. *Harris.*
TO DIP. *v. a.* particip. *dipped*, or *dip't*. [*suppan*, Saxon; *doopen*, Dutch.]
1. To immerge; to put into any liquor.
The person to be baptized may be *dipped* in water; and such an immersion or dipping ought to be made thrice, according to the canon. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*
Old Corineus compass'd thrice the crew,
And *dipp'd* an olive-branch in holy dew,
Which thrice he sprinkl'd round, and thrice aloud
Invok'd the dead, and then dismiss'd the crowd. *Dryd. An.*
He turn'd a tyrant in his latter days,
And from the bright meridian where he flood,
Descending, *dipp'd* his hands in lovers blood. *Dryd. Fables.*
The kindred arts shall in their praise conspire;
One *dip* the pencil, and one string the lyre. *Pope's Epistles.*
Now on fancy's easy wing convey'd,
The king descended to th' Elysian shade;
There in a dusky vale, where Lethe rolls,
Old Bavius sits to *dip* poetick souls. *Pope's Dunciad, b. iii.*
So fishes rising from the main,
Can soar with moisten'd wings on high;
The moisture dry'd, they sink again,
And *dip* their wings again to fly. *Swift.*
2. To moisten; to wet.
And though not mortal, yet a cold fludd'ring dew
Dips me all o'er, as when the wrath of Jove
Speaks thunder. *Milton.*
3. To be engaged in any affair.
When men are once *dip't*, what with the encouragements of sense, custom, facility, and flame of departing from what they have given themselves up to, they go on 'till they are stifled. *L'Estrange, Fab. 126.*
In Richard's time, I doubt, he was a little *dip't* in the rebellion of the commons. *Dryden's Fables.*
4. To engage as a pledge; generally used for the first mortgage.
Be careful still of the main chance, my son;
Put out the principal in trusty hands,
Live on the use, and never *dip* thy lands. *Dryden's Pers.*
TO DIP. *v. n.*
1. To sink; to immerge.
We have snakes in our cups, and in our dishes; and whoever *dips* too deep will find death in the pot. *L'Estrange's Fab.*
2. To enter; to pierce.
The vulture *dipping* in Prometheus' side,
His bloody beak with his torn liver dy'd. *Granville.*
3. To enter slightly into any thing.
When I think all the repetitions are struck out in a copy, I sometimes find more upon *dipping* in the first volume. *Pope.*
4. To drop by chance into any mals; to chuse by chance.
With what ill thoughts of Jove art thou possess'd?
Wouldst thou prefer him to some man? Suppose
I *dipp'd* among the worst, and Staius chose? *Dryden's Pers.*
DIPCHICK. *n. f.* [from *dip* and *chick*.] The name of a bird.
Dipchick is so named of his diving and littleness. *Carow.*
DIPETALOUS. *adj.* [*dis* and *petalon*.] Having two flower-leaves.
DIPPER. *n. f.* [from *dip*.] One that dips in the water.
DIPPING NEEDLE. *n. f.* A device which shews a particular property of the magnetick needle, so that, besides its polarity or verticity, which is its direction of altitude, or height above the horizon, when duly poised about an horizontal axis, it will always point to a determined degree of altitude, or elevation above the horizon, in this or that place respectively. *Phil.*
DIPHTHONG. *n. f.* [*diphthongos*.] A coalition of two vowels to form one sound; as *vain*, *leaf*, *Caspar*.
We see how many disputes the simple and ambiguous nature of vowels created among grammarians, and how it has begot the mistake concerning *diphthongs*: all that are properly so are syllables, and not *diphthongs*, as is intended to be signified by that word. *Helder's Elements of Speech.*
Make a *diphthong* of the second *eta* and *iota*, instead of their being two syllables, and the objection is gone. *Notes on the Iliad.*
DIPLOE. *n. f.* The inner plate or lamina of the skull. *South.*
DIPLOMA. *n. f.* [*diploma*.] A letter or writing conferring some privilege, so called because they used formerly to be written on waxed tables, and folded together. *Dipsas.*